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I can give an answer. By saying like that, I meant that I can only speculate and not give a definite answer. Astrology is speculation and that is why I referred to astrology in that connexion.

9–50 a.m. SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : கனம் அங்கத்தினர் செல்லதுரை அவர்கள் கேட்ட கேள்விக்கு பதில் அளிக்கும்போது "ஜோஸ்யம் பார்த்துத்தான் சொல்லவேண்டும்" என்று சொன்னார். அப்படியிருந்தால் அரசாங்கத்தின் ஜோஸ்யர் யார் ?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : கனம் அங்கத்தினருக்கு ஜோஸ்யம் தெரிந்திருந்தால் அவரை நியமிப்பதற்கும் ஆலோசிக்கப்படும்.

Licences to ex-toddy tappers

* 3423 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN (on behalf of Sri N. K. Palanisamy) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) Whether it is a fact that the Coimbatore District Prohibition Committee has passed a resolution to cancel the licences given to the ex-toddy tappers for tapping sweet toddy, 1956 ; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Pending examination of the question of policy in issuing licences to tap sweet toddy, *de novo*, the Government have directed licensing authorities to stop the issue of fresh licences and renewal of old licences in Coimbatore taluk.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to give licences to ex-toddy tappers? Also, may I know whether it is the policy of the Government that if anybody acted against the rules, all of them should be denied the licence?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Sir, the whole question is under examination by Government.

SRI K. T. SREEDHARAN : What was the reason put forth by this Committee in recommending the cancellation of the licence?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Their recommendation was that some of the tappers were misusing the licence.

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : May I know what the fundamental rules are that should be observed in issuing the licences to ex-tappers?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : A separate question may be put.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : In view of the fact that a Cabinet Sub-Committee has been constituted to go into the question of the effective administration of the Prohibition Act, will the

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Hon. Minister be pleased to give an assurance that pending the recommendation of that Committee, no licence will be cancelled so far as these ex-tappers are concerned?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : That is a different matter. The main question relates to Coimbatore taluk. The particular question raised by the hon. Member will also be examined. The Cabinet Sub-Committee may or may not go into this question. Whatever it is, it has to be considered as a separate question.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : During the last summer session, sweet toddy was supplied to the hon. Members. May I know whether this year also we will be supplied with the same?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : The hon. Member is requested to look outside.

SRI A. M. RATNASWAMY : Since the introduction of Prohibition, the condition of these toddy-tappers has become precarious. Do not the Government think that as a result of the cancellation of the licences for drawing sweet toddy, the position of the ex-tappers will become still more precarious?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : Yes, Sir, that is also one of the considerations. Therefore, when this question is examined, the Government will take into consideration the fact that about 1,012 persons will be rendered unemployed. That question will certainly be examined.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : The policy of the Government themselves is to give employment to unemployed people. That being so, if the Government cancel the licences issued to these people, will it not increase the unemployment problem which will become very acute? By so doing, will not the Government actually promote unemployment so to say?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : We cannot encourage the abuse of licences. At the same time, we have to see that people are not unemployed. Therefore, it is only a question of compromise between these two aspects. All aspects will be taken into consideration when we come to a decision on this matter.

Government Bus Transport

* 3424 *Q.*—SRI K. T. RAJU (on behalf of Sri N. K. Palanisamy) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to make the Government Bus Transport Organization in the City a permanent one; and

(*b*) if so, when it will be given effect to?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir. The question of making the Government Bus Service permanent